



INDIANA
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Common Sense Conservation Since 1938

Dear IWF Members and Friends,

It is a pleasure to highlight the wonderful accomplishments of the Indiana Wildlife Federation in what we believe is the first official IWF Annual Report. Thank you for taking the time to read about our work and important organizational changes that took place in 2015.

At the start of the year, the IWF Board of Directors wrapped up some important work as they adopted a 3-year strategic plan, and began operating under a new committee structure. These committees have provided direction to our operations and efficiency to our monthly meetings.

In March, Executive Director, Barbara Simpson resigned from her position, and IWF Program Manager and Internship Coordinator, Erin Baird, was promoted to the Executive Director role.

In April, the legislative session ended with a nerve-rackingly close vote that once again successfully defeated the legalization of canned hunting. We also celebrated the certification of both Butler University and Indiana State University through our Landscaping the Sustainable Campus program that month.

In September, we launched a fresh, simplified and powerful new logo that preserves our IWF identity while also being versatile for a variety of online and print communications platforms.

Thanks to your support, the Indiana Wildlife Federation is expanding our impact, laying the groundwork for a strong and stable organization, and promoting sustainable wildlife and habitats for generations to come!

Yours in conservation,



Steve Cecil
Board President



Erin Baird
Executive Director



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Erin Baird - Executive Director
Barbara Simpson - Conservation Policy Director
Allison Tischler – Habitat Programs Coordinator

INTERNS

Katie Waskom – Spring Habitat Intern
Michael Troutt – Spring Communications Intern
Lucas Carlson – Summer Habitat Intern
Scott Mitchell – Summer Communications Intern

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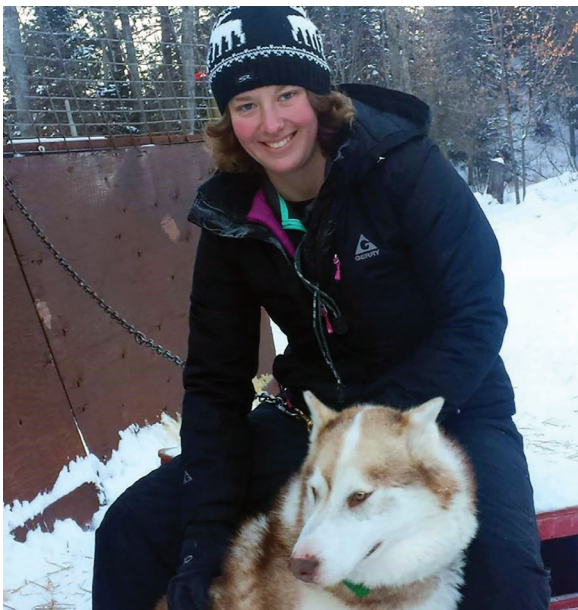


BUILDING **FUTURE CONSERVATIONISTS**



Hoosier Outdoor Experience / Earth Day Indiana

With the help of 19 volunteers, staff, and interns, IWF built 204 bird feeders, and distributed 124 wildflower seed packets to children and families at Earth Day Indiana and the Hoosier Outdoor Experience. Our engaging feeder activity was also profiled on WISH TV in April.



Kids' Contest

More than 220 Indiana students in grades 1-8 participated in the 2015 "What's In Your Wild Backyard?" online kids' contest. Thanks to support from the Roy Whistler Foundation, the contest was updated with a fresh look and better functionality that enhanced the learning experience. Also, with help from the Purdue Student Chapter of Environmental Education, we added 80 new questions that align with the state's education standards.

Doxtater Internship

IWF received more than 60 applications for our Doxtater Internship Program. Our 2015 interns—Katie Waskom, Michael Troutt, Scott Mitchell, and Lucas Carlson—were instrumental in bringing new ideas and expertise to our habitat programs and outreach efforts.

Holt Scholarship

We received 9 applications this year for the Charles Holt Scholarship program which awards \$1000 to an Indiana undergraduate student studying natural resources or environmental education. The 2015 recipient, Spencer Wesche, is studying conservation and ecology at Franklin College and plans to pursue graduate education in wildlife biology.

WE ALSO: Participated in People in the Environment Days at Cold Spring Environmental Studies Magnet School and joined the Indiana Children and Nature Network Steering Committee.

CREATING **HEALTHY HABITAT**

Certified Wildlife Habitat

More than 270 properties in Indiana achieved designation as a Certified Wildlife Habitat™ this year with 18 of those participating in the joint IWF-NWF certification program. Every property from tiny urban gardens to large prairie plantings is helping to slow habitat loss and support wildlife.

Native Plant Sale

Our annual Native Plant Sale attracted garden and wildlife enthusiasts from all over the state. Altogether, we sold 2050 individual plugs, 41 plant kits, 1250 trees, and 3 seed packets and raised over \$1647 to fund conservation programming.

Landscaping the Sustainable Campus

Two more Indiana universities certified through our Landscaping the Sustainable Campus program in 2015. Indiana State University and Butler University committed to incorporating elements like rain gardens, native plantings, and pervious pavements into their landscape management plans. They also added educational opportunities through new courses and field-based research to encourage a conservation-mindset among students.



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WE ALSO: Piloted our Backyard Habitat Workshop at Holliday Park and co-hosted a Statewide Urban-Suburban Habitat Initiative(SUSHI) meeting with the Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife.

SPEAKING FOR **WILDLIFE & HABITAT**

Catfish Rules

Together with the Indiana Catfish Conservation Association and other partners, IWF won a tremendous victory for conservation with the passage of rule changes on minimum size and daily take limits for native catfish. Strong support for these changes came from all corners of the state and helped ensure catfish numbers remain sustainable for future generations.

WE ALSO: Continued our opposition to the proposed mounds reservoir, defended the Great Lakes Compact (Waukesha diversion) and continued our role on the Indiana Conservation Alliance Steering Committee.



Canned Hunting

IWF played a key role in the defeat of Indiana House Bill 1453 (aka the “canned hunting” bill) in the 2015 legislative session. Emails, letters, phone calls, and social media messages from members and concerned conservationists influenced our state legislators to vote against this bill threatening fair chase hunting and wild deer populations in Indiana.

OUTREACH BY THE NUMBERS



Participated in **4** national and regional conservation meetings



Gave away **256** native wildflower seed packets



Gained **601** social media followers



Attended or hosted **58** events



Spoke with **1160** individuals



Served **2252** Hoosiers



MEMBERSHIP & FINANCIALS

AFFILIATE & CLUB MEMBERS

Amos Butler Audubon
Bartholomew County Conservation Council
Bremen Conservation Club
Central Indiana Trout Unlimited
Coffee Creek Conservation Club
Cold Spring Environmental Teachers
Dubois County Sportsmen Club
Friends of Goose Pond
Hoosier Outdoor Writers
Indiana Bowhunter Association
Indiana Catfish Conservation Association
Indiana Chapter of American Fisheries Society
Indiana Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Lake Maxinkuckee Environmental Council
LaPorte County Conservation Council
Little River Wetlands Project
New Alsace Conservation Club
North Dearborn Conservation Club
Pheasants Forever - Central Indiana Chapter
Pheasants Forever - LaGrange County Chapter
Porter County Conservation Club
Reel Women Reel Men
Saugany Lake Conservation Club
St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers
United Are We Conservation Club

CONSERVATION AWARDS 2015

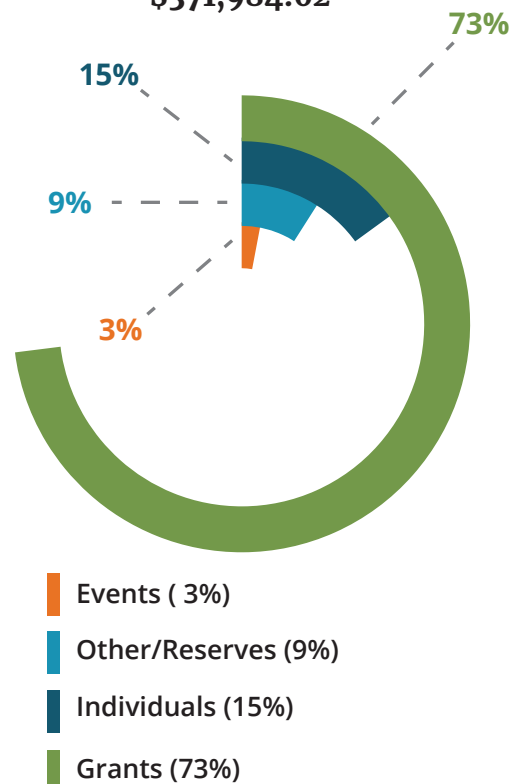
Paul Bunner Conservationist of the Year
Barbara Sha Cox

Conservation Organization of the Year
Heart of the River Coalition

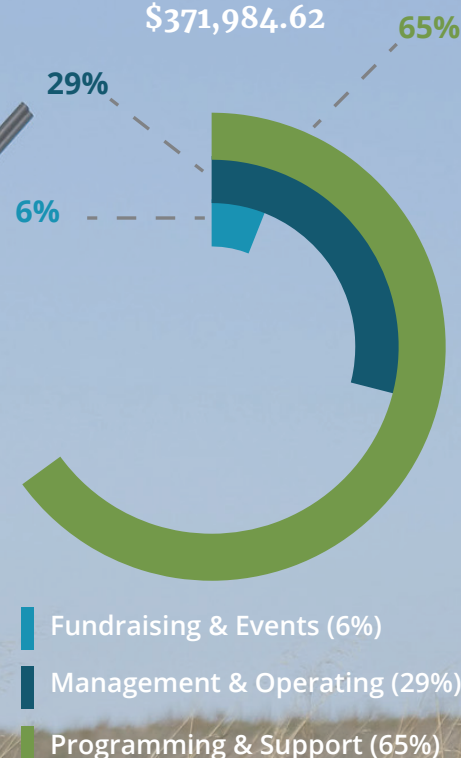
The Ginn Award
Barbara Simpson

President's Award
Glenn Lange

REVENUE \$371,984.62



EXPENSES \$371,984.62



DONOR SUPPORT

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- Indianapolis Store
Glendale Lowe's - Store #0635

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Dale and Rhonda Back
Frederick Steiner
Peggy and Paul Reising

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From Rita, Dale and Rhonda Back
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[†] Doxtater Internship Donor
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^{†††} New Lifetime Member



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A photograph of two young wolf pups sitting on a large, weathered log. The pup on the left is looking towards the right, while the pup on the right is looking towards the camera. The background is a soft-focus green field.

2015 Annual Report

CREATE A LEGACY **WITH THE** **INDIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION**

Please consider including IWF in your will or other future financial plans.

Contact us for more information and to start a conversation about planned giving.

WWW.INDIANAWILDLIFE.ORG/GIVING

If you have already included IWF in your future plans, *please let us know—we would like to thank you for your gift!*